CLAIMS

1. An excess pressure relief system for a tank carried on a vehicle, comprising:

a relief valve for relieving excess pressure in the tank; and

a diffuser provided on a discharge line downstream of the relief valve.

2. An excess pressure relief system for a tank carried on a vehicle, comprising:

a relief valve for relieving excess pressure in the tank; and

a control valve for controlling gas discharge rate, provided on a discharge line downstream of the relief valve.

3. An excess pressure relief system for a tank carried on a vehicle, comprising:

a relief valve for relieving excess pressure in the tank;

a control valve for controlling gas discharge rate, provided on a discharge line downstream of the relief valve; and

a diffuser provided downstream of the control valve.

4. The excess pressure relief system according to claims 1 or 3, wherein the diffuser comprises:

an inner perforated member connected to the discharge line,

an outer perforated member surrounding the inner member, and

an intermediate diffuser member arranged in a space between the inner and outer perforated members.

5. The excess pressure relief system according to claim 4, wherein

the diffuser member is made of a perforated plate having holes of predetermined sizes.

6. The excess pressure relief system according to claim 4, wherein

the diffuser member comprises a mass of unwoven metal threads.

7. The excess pressure relief system according to claim 4, wherein

the diffuser member is made of a net of a predetermined mesh size.

8. The excess pressure relief system according to claims 1 or 3, wherein the diffuser

comprises:

a deflector for deflecting gas flow discharged from the relief valve, the deflector having a planer wall portion on which the discharged gas flow impinges and a tubular wall portion for turning the direction of the gas flow.

9. The excess pressure relief system according to claims 2 or 3, wherein the control valve comprises:

a valve element which opens/closes an outlet of the relief valve, and

a resilient member which generates force to close the valve element.

10. The excess pressure relief system according to claims 2 or 3, wherein the control valve comprises:

a valve element which opens/closes an outlet of the relief valve,

a solenoid to drive the valve element, and

a controller for controlling duty ratio of the solenoid.

11. An excess pressure relief system for a tank carried on a vehicle, comprising:

a relief valve for relieving excess pressure in the tank; and

diffusing means provided on a discharge line downstream of the relief valve.